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**IMMEDIATE
ATTENTION**

MASTER FILES

ROOM 0-120

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EBD/83/13

January 13, 1983

To: Members of the Executive Board

From: The Secretary

Subject: Access to Fund Archives

The Fund has been asked by the Bank of Spain to provide assistance in connection with the preparation of a book on relations between Spain and the International Monetary Fund, 1958-82. The project will be carried out by Mr. Joaquin Muns, former staff member and Executive Director, and is envisaged to cover such areas as Spanish membership in the Fund, transactions between the Fund and Spain, Fund policies and their application to the Spanish case, the main elements and recommendations of Fund reports on Spain, and the role of Spain in the Fund. Given the importance of increased public understanding of the role and activities of the Fund, and the unique qualifications of this particular researcher, it would seem appropriate for the Fund to cooperate to the fullest extent possible. Accordingly, it is proposed that Mr. Muns be given access to the relevant Fund archives in accordance with the following guidelines:

1. Relevant Fund documents, including Executive Board minutes, would be made available to the researcher. Papers concerning Spain which relate to another country as well, if any, would be cleared first by the Executive Director concerned.
2. The Fund would reserve the right to review the use the researcher proposed to make of information obtained from Fund documents and to make suggestions in connection with that use.
3. The management would report to the Executive Board on material made available to the researcher. Any quotations of Executive Board minutes and other Fund documents, and any attribution of views to particular governments or persons, would be referred back to the Executive Board.

The aforementioned guidelines are similar to those approved in August 1981, in connection with the use of the Fund's archives by a researcher preparing a history of the European Payments Union. It is felt that their application will permit the Fund to protect the confidential nature of its archives, while, at the same time, cooperating in this worthwhile project.

In the absence of a request for discussion by an Executive Director by the close of business on Tuesday, January 18, 1983, the proposal will be deemed to have been approved and it will be so recorded in the minutes of the next meeting thereafter.

Other Distribution:
Department Heads